

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

ROBERT ROMERO,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civ. No. 24-6 GJF/SCY

TRADER JOE'S COMPANY and
PARKER STALEY,

Defendants.

ORDER SETTING JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to the telephonic scheduling conference held on March 19, 2024, the Court sets the following dates and deadlines:

A **Final Pretrial Conference** will be held via Zoom (log-on information to be provided at a later date) on **Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** All attorneys participating in the trial must be present for the pretrial conference. The parties may, but need not, be present.

Jury Selection and Jury Trial¹ will take place beginning **at 9:00 a.m. on March 10–14, 2025**, at the Pete V. Domenici U.S. District Court in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in a courtroom to be determined.

Counsel are directed to submit a proposed consolidated final pretrial order as follows. Plaintiffs shall submit a proposed pretrial order to Defendants **no later than Friday, January 17, 2025**. Defendants shall submit a consolidated final pretrial order to the Court no later than **Friday, January 24, 2025**. Counsel are directed that the pretrial order will provide that no witnesses except rebuttal witnesses, whose testimony cannot be anticipated, will be permitted to testify unless the

¹ The parties dispute whether Plaintiff has waived his right to a jury trial, an issue the Court will decide only when it is fully briefed. In an abundance of caution, the Court is setting this case for a *jury* trial. If the Court later determines that Plaintiff waived the right to one, the Court will issue a modified order scheduling a bench trial for the same date.

name of the witness is furnished to the Court and opposing counsel no later than thirty (30) days prior to the time set for trial. Any exceptions thereto must be upon order of the Court for good cause shown.

Motions in Limine: All motions in limine² are due by **Friday, January 24, 2025**. Any responses or objections are due by **Friday, January 31, 2025**. No replies are permitted.

Witness Lists: The parties shall file their witness lists, including both witnesses that the parties “will call” and “may call” at trial, no later than **Friday, January 24, 2025**. Any objections to a witness named by the opposing party must be filed by **Friday, January 31, 2025**.

Designations and Counter-Designations of Deposition Testimony: The parties shall file designations, and counter-designations, of deposition testimony that they intend to use at trial. The designations and counter-designations must state the pages and lines of the deposition to be used. Plaintiff will use a yellow marker and Defendants a blue marker. These requirements do not apply to cross-examination or rebuttal of a witness presented in person at trial. Designations must be filed by **Friday, January 24, 2025**. Counsel must jointly submit one physical copy of each deposition to my chambers by this due date and must highlight the parts of the depositions that are to be used. Any objections to testimony designated by the opposing party, and any counter-designations, must be filed by **Friday, January 31, 2025**. If the parties wish to make further designations in light of the designations and counter-designations, leave for additional designations must be requested from the Court **at the pretrial conference**.

Exhibits: The parties shall jointly file one list of stipulated exhibits and shall separately file lists of contested exhibits no later than **Friday, January 31, 2025**. They shall also submit **two**

² Motions challenging the admissibility of expert testimony under *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579 (1993) are not motions in limine. *Daubert* motions shall be filed no later than the dispositive motions deadline.

physical copies of marked exhibits to my chambers by the next business day. The first copy shall include exhibits that the parties stipulate to be admissible and shall be labeled consecutively. The second copy shall include exhibits, the admissibility of which are contested, and shall be labeled consecutively beginning with the next sequential number after the final stipulated exhibit designation. For instance, if there are 50 stipulated exhibits, 20 contested Plaintiff's exhibits, and 20 contested Defendants' exhibits, the first notebook shall contain stipulated exhibits numbered 1 to 50. The second notebook shall contain Plaintiff's contested exhibits numbered 51 through 70 and Defendants' contested exhibits numbered 71 through 90.

In order to allow sufficient time for a party to decide whether to contest the admission of exhibits, each party must send a list of their proposed exhibits to the opposing party no later than **Friday, January 24, 2025.**

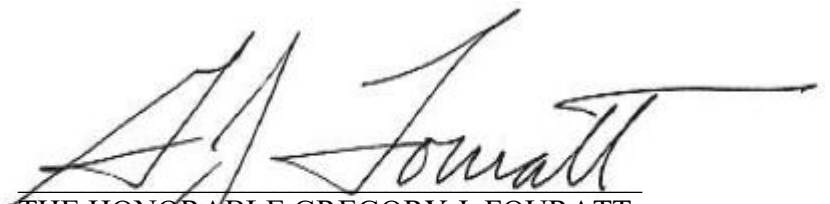
Statement of the Case: No later than **Friday, January 31, 2025**, the parties shall file a consolidated, clear, concise statement of the case, to be read by the Court to the jury at the beginning of trial. If counsel are unable to agree to a consolidated statement of the case, they shall file separate statements of the case. The parties shall meet and confer about the statement of the case no later than **Friday, January 24, 2025.**

Jury Instructions: The parties shall meet and confer about proposed jury instructions no later than **Friday, January 24, 2025.** Plaintiff is responsible for filing a set of requested jury instructions to which all of the parties agree. Requested instructions upon which the parties cannot agree must be filed separately by the requesting party. There shall be only one instruction per page and each instruction shall include a citation to supporting authority at the bottom of the page. All such filings are due **Friday, January 31, 2025.** On that same day, the parties must also email a copy of the instructions in Word format, without citations, to

fourattproposedtext@nmd.uscourts.gov. A party must file written objections to an opposing party's requested instructions no later than **Friday, February 7, 2025**.

Voir Dire: No later than **Friday, January 31, 2025**, the parties shall each file a set of proposed voir dire questions, divided into those questions that counsel request that the Court pose to the venire and those that counsel request permission to ask the venire themselves. No later than **Friday, February 7, 2025**, the parties shall file objections, if any, to the proposed questions.

SO ORDERED.



THE HONORABLE GREGORY J. FOURATT
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
Presiding by Consent